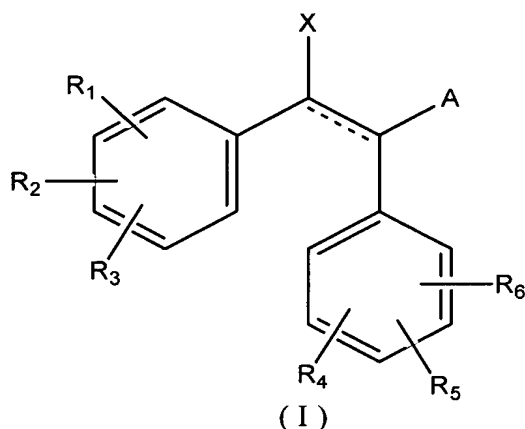


**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-42. (Cancelled).

43. (New) A compound of the formula 1:



wherein the bond represented by the dotted line may be an optional bond, and the geometry across the resulting double bond may be in the E- or Z- configuration;

A represents  $-\text{COOR}_8$  or  $-\text{CONR}_9\text{R}_{10}$ ;

$\text{R}_8$  represents  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl; aryl; or arylalkyl;

$\text{R}_9$  represents  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl; or aryl;

$\text{R}_{10}$  represents a hydrogen atom;  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl; or aryl;

X represents a hydrogen atom;  $-\text{OH}$ ;  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$  linear or branched alkyl groups, optionally substituted with  $-\text{COOR}$ , carbonyl, or a halogen atom; or  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{10}$  linear or branched alkenyl groups, optionally substituted with  $-\text{COOR}$ , carbonyl, or a halogen atom;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom;  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl; aryl; aralkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

R<sub>1</sub> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkenyl; -COOR; -NR'R"; -CONR'R"; -OH; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acylamino; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom; -SO<sub>2</sub>R"; -CZ<sub>3</sub>; or -SR";

R' and R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; or aryl;

each Z independently represents a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; alkyl; chloro-substituted alkyl; or fluoro-substituted alkyl;

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl;

R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> independently represents a hydrogen atom; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkenyl; -COOR; -NR'R"; -CONR'R"; -OH; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acylamino; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom; -NO<sub>2</sub>; -SO<sub>2</sub>R"; -CZ<sub>3</sub>; -SR"; or R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> together may be joined to form methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy groups;

R<sub>4</sub> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkenyl; -COOR; -NR'R"; -CONR'R"; -OH; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acylamino; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom; -SO<sub>2</sub>R"; -CZ<sub>3</sub>; or -SR";

R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> independently represents a hydrogen atom; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkenyl; -COOR; -NR'R"; -CONR'R"; -OH; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acylamino; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom; -SO<sub>2</sub>R"; -CZ<sub>3</sub>; -SR"; or R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> together may be joined to form methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy groups;

or R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub> independently represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkanoyl of the form COQ wherein Q represents an alkyl or aryl group;

with the proviso that when A represents -COOR<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and/or R<sub>6</sub> represents a halogen atom, the bond represented by the dotted line is present resulting in a double bond, and

with the further proviso that when A represents -COOR<sub>8</sub>, then X represents a hydrogen atom or -OH.

44. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes, comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 43, or a mixture of compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
45. (New) A composition according to claim 44 which is suitable for oral administration.
46. (New) The compound of claim 43, wherein A represents  $-\text{COOR}_8$ .
47. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes, comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 46, or a mixture of compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
48. (New) A composition according to claim 47 which is suitable for oral administration.
49. (New) The compound of claim 46, wherein  $\text{R}_8$  represents a methyl group.
50. (New) The compound of claim 46, wherein:  
 $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_4$  and  $\text{R}_6$  each represents a hydrogen atom;  
 $\text{R}_5$  represents  $-\text{OH}$  in the 4-position;  
 $\text{R}_2$  represents a methoxy group in the 3-position; and  
 $\text{R}_3$  represents a methoxy group in the 5-position.
51. (New) The compound of claim 49, wherein:  
 $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_4$  and  $\text{R}_6$  each represents a hydrogen atom;  
 $\text{R}_5$  represents  $-\text{OH}$  in the 4-position;  
 $\text{R}_2$  represents a methoxy group in the 3-position; and  
 $\text{R}_3$  represents a methoxy group in the 5-position.

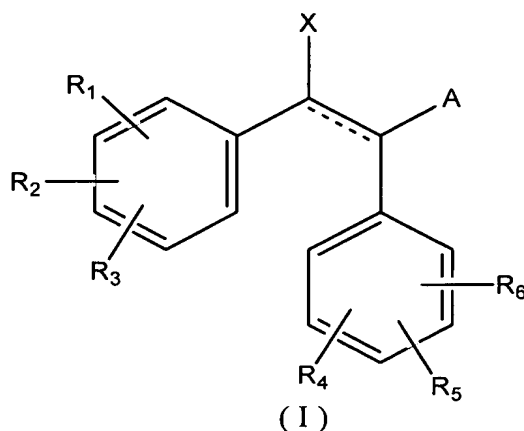
52. (New) The compound of claim 51, wherein:  
X represents a hydrogen atom;  
the bond represented by the dotted line is present; and  
the resulting double bond is in the E-configuration.
53. (New) The compound of claim 51, wherein:  
X represents a hydrogen atom;  
the bond represented by the dotted line is present; and  
the resulting double bond is in the Z-configuration.
54. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 50, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
55. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 51, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
56. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 52, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
57. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 53, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
58. (New) The compound of claim 43, wherein:  
R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>10</sub> independently represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl group.

59. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes, comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 58, or a mixture of compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
60. (New) A composition according to claim 59 which is suitable for oral administration.
61. (New) The compound of claim 43, wherein:  
R<sub>9</sub> and R<sub>10</sub> each represents a methyl group.
62. (New) The compound of claim 43, wherein:  
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> each represents a hydrogen atom; and  
at least one of R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, and R<sub>5</sub> represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy group.
63. (New) The compound of claim 43, wherein:  
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> each represents a hydrogen atom;  
at least one of R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy group; and  
R<sub>5</sub> represents a -OH group in the 4-position.
64. (New) The compound of claim 61, wherein:  
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> each represents a hydrogen atom;  
R<sub>5</sub> represents -OH in the 4-position;  
R<sub>2</sub> represents a methoxy group in the 3-position; and  
R<sub>3</sub> represents a methoxy group in the 5-position.
65. (New) The compound of claim 61, wherein X represents a hydrogen atom.
66. (New) The compound of claim 64, wherein X represents a hydrogen atom.

67. (New) The compound of claim 66, wherein:  
X represents a hydrogen atom;  
the bond represented by the dotted line is present; and  
the resulting double bond is in the E-configuration.
68. (New) The compound of claim 66, wherein:  
X represents a hydrogen atom;  
the bond represented by the dotted line is present; and  
the resulting double bond is in the Z-configuration.
69. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 64, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
70. (New) A composition according to claim 69 which is suitable for oral  
administration.
71. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 67, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
72. (New) A composition according to claim 71 which is suitable for oral  
administration.
73. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 68, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

74. (New) A composition according to claim 73 which is suitable for oral administration.

75. (New) A compound of the formula 1:



wherein the bond represented by the dotted line is present, and the geometry across the resulting double bond may be in the E- or Z- configuration;

A represents  $-\text{COOR}_8$  or  $-\text{CONR}_{11}\text{R}_{12}$ ;

$\text{R}_8$  represents a methyl group;

$\text{R}_{11}$  and  $\text{R}_{12}$  independently represents a hydrogen atom;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl; or aryl;

X represents a hydrogen atom;  $-\text{OH}$ ;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  linear or branched alkyl groups, optionally substituted with  $-\text{COOR}$ , carbonyl, or a halogen atom; or  $\text{C}_2$ - $\text{C}_{10}$  linear or branched alkenyl groups, optionally substituted with  $-\text{COOR}$ , carbonyl, or a halogen atom;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl; aryl; aralkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

$\text{R}_1$  represents  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl;  $\text{C}_2$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkenyl;  $-\text{COOR}$ ;  $-\text{NR}'\text{R}''$ ;  $-\text{CONR}'\text{R}''$ ;  $-\text{OH}$ ;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkoxy;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  acylamino;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  acyloxy;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom;  $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}'''$ ;  $-\text{CZ}_3$ ; or  $-\text{SR}'''$ ;

$\text{R}'$  and  $\text{R}''$  independently represents a hydrogen atom;  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{20}$  linear or branched alkyl; or aryl;

each Z independently represents a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; alkyl; chloro-substituted alkyl; or fluoro-substituted alkyl;

R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl;

R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> independently represents a hydrogen atom; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkenyl; -COOR; -NR'R''; -CONR'R''; -OH; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acylamino; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom; -NO<sub>2</sub>; -SO<sub>2</sub>R'''; -CZ<sub>3</sub>; -SR'''; or R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> together may be joined to form methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy groups;

R<sub>4</sub> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkenyl; -COOR; -NR'R''; -CONR'R''; -OH; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acylamino; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom; -SO<sub>2</sub>R'''; -CZ<sub>3</sub>; or -SR''';

R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> independently represents a hydrogen atom; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkenyl; -COOR; -NR'R''; -CONR'R''; -OH; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acylamino; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> acyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl; a halogen atom; -SO<sub>2</sub>R'''; -CZ<sub>3</sub>; -SR'''; or R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> together may be joined to form methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy groups;

or R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, and R<sub>6</sub> independently represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkanoyl of the form COQ wherein Q represents an alkyl or aryl group;

with the proviso that when A represents -COOR<sub>8</sub>, then X represents a hydrogen atom or -OH.

76. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes, comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 75, or a mixture of compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

77. (New) A composition according to claim 76 which is suitable for oral administration.



78. (New) The compound of claim 75, wherein:  
R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> independently represents a hydrogen atom or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl.
79. (New) The compound of claim 75, wherein:  
R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> independently represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> linear or branched alkyl.
80. (New) The compound of claim 75, wherein:  
R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> independently represents a hydrogen atom or methyl group.
81. (New) The compound of claim 75, wherein:  
R<sub>11</sub> and R<sub>12</sub> each represents a methyl group.
82. (New) The compound of claim 75, wherein:  
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> each represents a hydrogen atom; and  
at least one of R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, and R<sub>5</sub> represents a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy group.
83. (New) The compound of claim 75, wherein:  
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> each represents a hydrogen atom; and  
at least one of R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, and R<sub>5</sub> represents a -OH group in the 4-position.
84. (New) The compound of claim 81, wherein:  
R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> each represents a hydrogen atom;  
R<sub>5</sub> represents -OH in the 4-position;  
R<sub>2</sub> represents a methoxy group in the 3-position; and  
R<sub>3</sub> represents a methoxy group in the 5-position.
85. (New) The compound of claim 81, wherein X represents a hydrogen atom.
86. (New) The compound of claim 84, wherein X represents a hydrogen atom.

87. (New) The compound of claim 86, wherein:  
X represents a hydrogen atom;  
the bond represented by the dotted line is present; and  
the resulting double bond is in the E-configuration.
88. (New) The compound of claim 86, wherein:  
X represents a hydrogen atom;  
the bond represented by the dotted line is present; and  
the resulting double bond is in the Z-configuration.
89. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 78, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
90. (New) A composition according to claim 89 which is suitable for oral  
administration.
91. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 84, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
92. (New) A composition according to claim 91 which is suitable for oral  
administration.
93. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes,  
comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 87, or a mixture of  
compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

94. (New) A composition according to claim 93 which is suitable for oral administration.
95. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes, comprising:  
a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 88, or a mixture of compounds thereof, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
96. (New) A composition according to claim 95 which is suitable for oral administration.
97. (New) A compound selected from 3-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-acrylic acid; 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-fluoro-p-phenyl)-acrylic acid; 2-(4-acetylamino-phenyl)-3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acrylic acid; or 3-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid.
98. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of diabetes comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound, or a mixture of compounds, selected from the group consisting of:  
3-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-acrylic acid;  
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-fluoro-p-phenyl)-acrylic acid;  
2-(4-acetylamino-phenyl)-3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acrylic acid; or  
3-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid;  
in a physiologically acceptable carrier.
99. (New) A medicament for treating diabetes comprising a compound or a mixture of compounds selected from the group consisting of:  
3-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-acrylic acid;  
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-fluoro-p-phenyl)-acrylic acid;  
2-(4-acetylamino-phenyl)-3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acrylic acid; or  
3-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-propionic acid.

100. (New) The medicament of claim 99, wherein the medicament is an oral medicament.